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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,302	10/27/2003	Douglas Vincent Larson	200309576-1	3575

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EXAMINER

BATAILLE, PIERRE MICHE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2186

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/694,302	LARSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Pierre-Michel Bataille	2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

NINETY 90

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR ~~THIRTY~~ (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 September 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 11-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The instant Office Action is taken in response to applicant's communication filed September 6, 2006 responding to Non-Final Rejection dated April 18, 2006. Applicant's amendment and/or arguments have been considered with the results that follow.
2. Claims 1-13 are now pending in the application under prosecution. Claims 1-10 have been canceled.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,804,761 (Chen et al).

With respect to claim 13, Chen discloses method of dynamically allocating memory of a computer system operable when a program running on the computer system requests allocation of a requested memory block from a memory pool (**computer memory allocating method comprising receiving a request from a computer program for a block of memory where the available block of memory is allocated to a function in a computer program memory pool**) comprising steps of:

testing a size of the requested memory block to determine if the size is representable as N times two raised to the power M times a cache line size of the computer system, where N is an integer equal to or greater than 1, and M is an integer greater than one (**a chunk manager to locate an available block of memory having a size within a predefined range around the requested block size**); and, if the size of the requested memory block is so representable, further comprising:

determining a spacer size determined as a random spacer size within a predetermined range of allowable spacer size (**modifying request by chunk manager such that size of requested memory block corresponds to standard block size, where manager locates available block of memory, size**),

reserving a spacer block of memory from the memory pool, the spacer block being of the spacer size ; and

allocating the memory block, adjacent to the spacer block, from the memory pool (***the chunk manager locating an available block of memory having a size within a predefined range around the requested block size where the available block of memory is allocated to a function in a computer program memory pool.***) [See abstract, Fig. 7, Col. 2, Lines 23-40; Col. 4, Line 65 to Col 5, Line 27].

With respect to claim 12, Chen discloses the integer M parameterized such that it may be adjusted to optimize performance (***modified by a chunk manager such that the size of the requested memory block corresponds to a standard block size in order to reduce the amount of memory fragmentation***) [Col. 4, Lines 65-67].

With respect to claim 13, Chen discloses the range of permissible spacer sizes is adjustable by a system administrator [***(memory allocation system used on a workstation coupled to a central computer system in a multi-tasking environment)*** Col. 3, Lines 16-27].

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 5,930,827 (Sturges) teaching method and apparatus for dynamic memory management by association of free memory blocks using a binary tree organized in an address and size dependent manner.

US 5,675,790 (Walls) teaching method for improving the performance of dynamic memory allocation by removing small memory fragments from the memory pool.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Michel Bataille whose telephone number is (571) 272-4178. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00A to 4:30P).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew M. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Pierre-Michel Bataille
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2186

October 25, 2006

PIERRE BATAILLE
PRIMARY EXAMINER